RuneScape Preservation Unit

Preservation Protocol

Written by Manpaint

Notice

This documents assume that you are running the Windows 7, 8 or 10 and that the web browser Google Chrome is at your disposal.

Introduction

This document explains the protocols used for the archiving of data depending on the context.

As a reminder, hard drives and storage devices can fail at any moment, make sure to copy any archived data to at least two locations.

Command prompts

Some of the protocol described require command prompts. To do so, right click + shift in File Explorer without selecting any file and select "Open Command Window Here".

Videos

YouTube videos

Use the tool Ytdlc (or equivalent), usage is as follow (command prompt):

```
youtube-dlc URL
```

Example:

```
youtube-dlc https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtJ-Sc2blLw
```

"youtube-dlc.exe" must be present in the folder where the command prompt is executed.

Twitch videos

Use the tool TwitchLeecher.

Other platforms

On other platforms, retrieving videos can be difficult. It come down to how videos are implemented.

In Google Chrome, right click Inspect Element and search for video extension such as ".mp4", ".webm" and ".avi". With some luck, you might be able to find a link to the video and download it.

Warning: Some sites cut down video files into tiny pieces for streaming. If using this method, make sure to check the integrality of the video downloaded.

If you cannot seem to find a video file or the access to it is forbidden, your only option is to use a screen recorder. Make sure to check the output file to see if the recording went as planned.

Websites

Important notice

Web pages archiving tools generally do not archive video, they must be archived separately.

Link grabbing

When archiving a web page, you might want to get the link associated with it. On Google Chrome, the extension LinkGopher allows you to retrieve a list of links.

Online archiving

It is possible to archives webpages using the following online services:

- Archive.is (Can archive pretty much everything but is very slow)
- Internet Archive/Wayback Machine (Do not work on some sites, notably runescape.com and related domains).

Offline archiving

On Google Chrome, it is possible to save web pages as HTML documents with files associated with it. Right click on a page and select "Save as". Select the file Full Web page (html).

When using this method, always check if the files have been saved in the output folder, files are not saved by default.

Archiving (downloading) files

The tool Wget allows you to download files from the internet using a command prompt. Here's the basic usage:

wget *file-url*

Example:

wget https://www.runescape.com/l=2/img/rs3/background-main.jpg

See the section *Basic Mass Command* for advanced usage.

Discord Chats

It is possible to archive Discord Chats with the tool DiscordChatExporter. It creates html document.

Note: To create a complete archive, follow the same step as the *Offline archiving* section on the output html file.

RuneScape Caches

To archive a RuneScape cache, create a ZIP file of the folder. In the filename, make sure to include revision/build and other specifications. See the section *Nomenclature (naming)* for more details.

Archiving game data

General archiving

The best way to archive game data (that is directly in-game) is to record a video of it using a screen recorder.

More advanced users can use Wireshark to capture the packets of the RuneScape client. This can be used to retrieve certain type of string of texts. Keep in mind that some message types are encrypted.

If unsure, simply record a video.

Mass Download

The tool JDownloader2 allows you to mass download files from a link list.

-Open the program.

-Go into the LinkGrabber and right click Add New Links (link may appear automatically).

-----***If links are already there, press CRL + A, right click and delete them.***

-Select an output folder (Download folder by default), click continue.

-Once are links have appeared, right click and select Start All Downloads.

Note: Make sure the link you entered are valid. On some sites, image filenames are suffixed and are not considered downloadable. If so, try to alter the URL. All file URL should end with a file extension and nothing else.

Basic Mass Command

This section requires Notepad++.

While archiving files, you may want to mass download files using methods detailed previously. Here is the procedure to do so.

(In this example, we will use wget to mass download files.)

-Paste a list of URLs in a new Notepad++ document.

-Press the keys CRL + F, go into the Replace tab.

-Select "Regular Expression"

-In find field put ^(.*)$

-In replace field put [[\1

-Press Replace all

-Select "Normal mode"

-In find put [[

-In replace put wget (there is a space after *wget*)

-Press Replace all.

-Save the file as run.bat and place it in the same directory as wget.exe.

-Execute the bat file to mass download the file.

The same method can be applied for Ytdlc by replacing the word "wget".

Note: I strongly advise to make a folder for each mass download, each with their own wget.exe for better structuring.

Nomenclature (naming)

As there is multiple version of RuneScape it is important to specify an abbreviation in file names when pertinent. Here's the list of abbreviation:

Abbreviation	Meaning
RSC/RS1	RuneScape Classic
RS2	RuneScape 2
RSHD	RuneScape High Definition
RS3	RuneScape 3
HTML5	HTML5 client
JAVA	Java Client
NXT	NXT client
DS	DarkScape
DOTD	Dimension of the Damned
AOG	Armies of Gielinor
RSCL	RuneScape Chronicle Legends
RSR	RuneScape Remasterd
RS-NG	RS Next / Next Gen
DVM	DeviousMud
DMM	Dead Man Mode

If the revision/build is known, include it in the file name, otherwise use original file timestamp or approximation.